



Sharing Hope Ministry

# Sharing Hope N • E • W • S

APRIL 2005  
ISSUE NO. 31

—PHONE NUMBER—

Sharing Hope Ministry  
358-7803

—ADDRESS—

P.O. Box 19985  
Amarillo, Texas 79114

—WEBSITE—

[www.sharinghopeministry.org](http://www.sharinghopeministry.org)

—STAFF—

April Riggs, Executive Director  
[april@sharinghopeministry.org](mailto:april@sharinghopeministry.org)

Leigh Link, Secretary  
[leigh@sharinghopeministry.org](mailto:leigh@sharinghopeministry.org)

—STATISTICS—

Total *Life Recovery Bibles* Distributed:  
**26,962**

Total Bible Study Workbooks Distributed:  
**11,858**

—VOLUNTEERS—

Pen Pal Volunteers: **100**

Office Volunteers: **36**

Prayer Group Volunteers: **3**

Stepping Stones Volunteers: **8**

Visitation Team Volunteers: **17**

Teaching Team Volunteers: **4**

—BOARD OF DIRECTORS—

Brenda Blakley, President

Sammye Stark, Vice President

Connie Hodges, Secretary

Chris Brady                      Jim Burgess

Dan Hetrick                      Rod Jones

Stella Knickerbocker      Becky Logsdon

George Snell                      Jack Westbrook

Newsletter Design Courtesy of

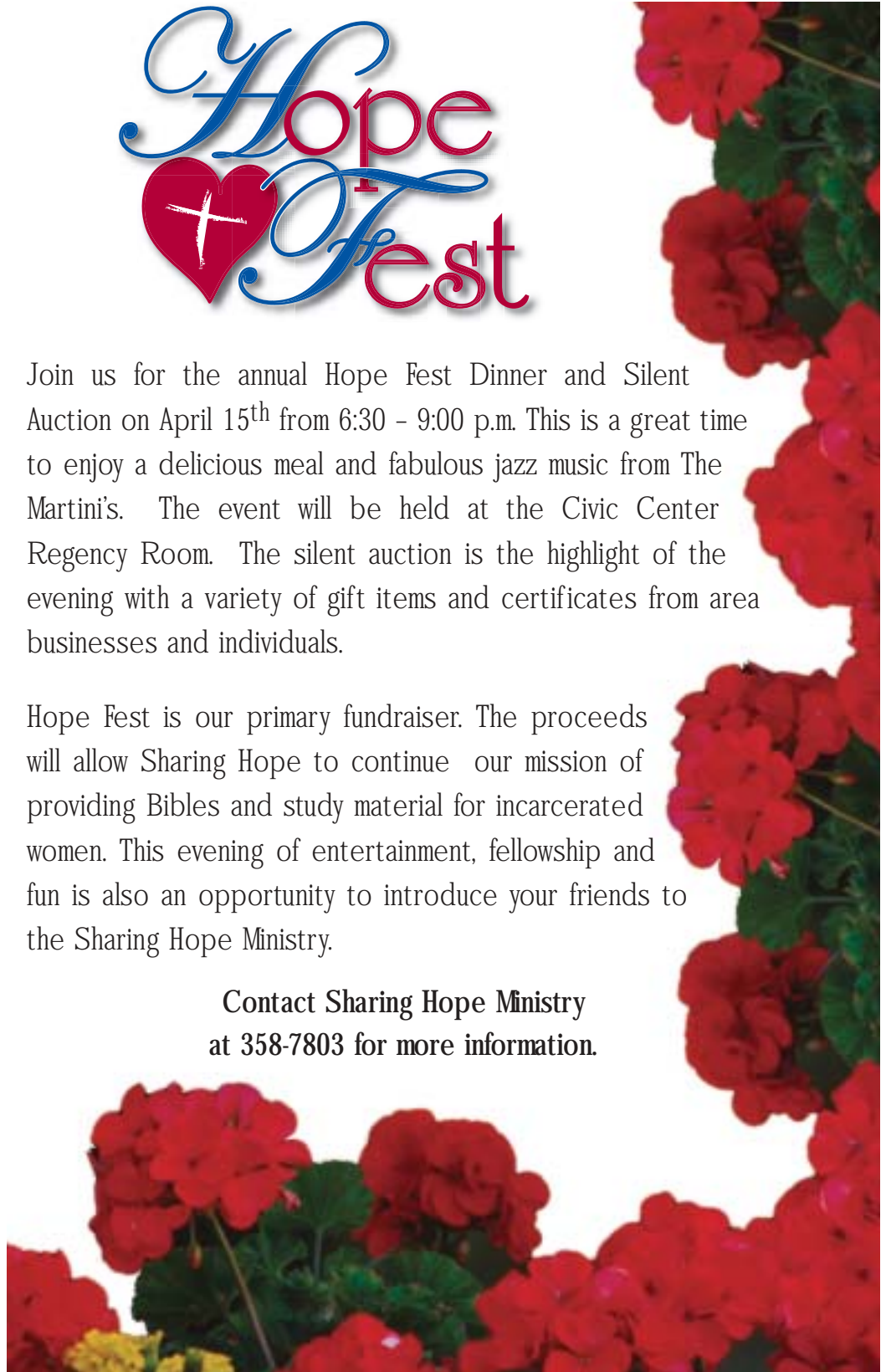
*Graphic Designs by Kim* - 622-8399

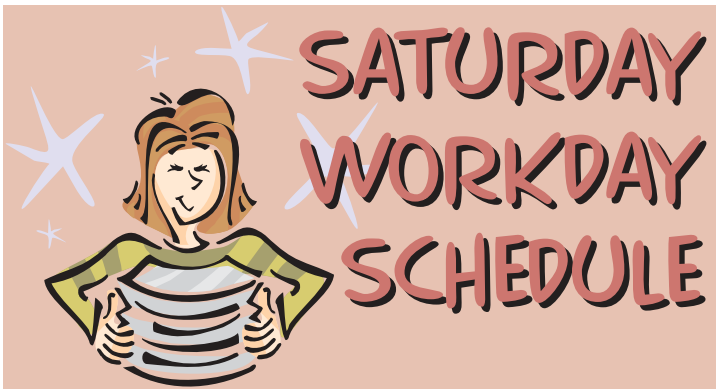


Join us for the annual Hope Fest Dinner and Silent Auction on April 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. This is a great time to enjoy a delicious meal and fabulous jazz music from The Martini's. The event will be held at the Civic Center Regency Room. The silent auction is the highlight of the evening with a variety of gift items and certificates from area businesses and individuals.

Hope Fest is our primary fundraiser. The proceeds will allow Sharing Hope to continue our mission of providing Bibles and study material for incarcerated women. This evening of entertainment, fellowship and fun is also an opportunity to introduce your friends to the Sharing Hope Ministry.

Contact Sharing Hope Ministry  
at 358-7803 for more information.





New or current volunteers are welcome the first Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. to mail Bibles or work on projects. This is a great time to “try out” volunteer opportunities.

**April 2**

**May 7**

**June 4**



## **Sharing Hope Ministry**

### **Has Several Needs:**

- ✓ People willing to do data entry on the computer. We can use you several hours or as a regular weekly volunteer during a morning or afternoon.
- ✓ More Pen Pal volunteers. Can we come to your Bible study class to talk about the Pen Pal Program?
- ✓ Receptionist for one afternoon a week.
- ✓ Office volunteers to help mail Bibles and Bible studies.
- ✓ Speaking Opportunities – Provide names of your church contacts and women’s groups for us to contact to schedule a Sharing Hope presentation.
- ✓ Potter County Teaching Team Member - We need several women to join our Potter County Jail team. This involves a commitment of about 2 Wednesday mornings each month.

# **The Sharing Hope Ministry OFFICE UPDATE**



Our gratitude goes out to **Eric and Kelly Tucker** for donating carpet to the Sharing Hope Office. Kelly is the daughter of office volunteer, Dianna Tolk. The barely used carpet replaced worn carpet in the workroom and the hallway and has really brightened the office.

Volunteers were surprised when they arrived one January morning to find new carpet that was installed over the weekend by **Buddy and Leigh Link** and their daughters **Dani and Gabi**. The Links did a great job helping us keep the office looking professional.



Volunteer **Joyce Schultz** donated a Saturday morning and her equipment to clean the new carpet after installation. We appreciate Joyce’s time and effort.



Paramount Terrace Christian Church donated the funds for Sharing Hope Ministry to purchase a new computer server. The Sharing Hope office will be putting all inmate files on a new database. Our goal is to cut back the work load for the volunteers which will allow us to keep up with the almost 700 requests for Bibles a month. This will also allow us to pull statistical information to use for grant writing purposes. A special thanks to **Geoff Johnson** who made sure we had the right equipment and took care of all the set up.

# MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

*Sharing Hope Ministry, Inc. has several different ministry opportunities available. This month we will highlight those opportunities with the Pen Pal Program.*

Robin writes, "I am currently incarcerated on a 4 year sentence. I have a wonderful family at home who is very supportive of me. I am 45 years old and this is my very first time in prison. I was arrested for prescription forgery. I started taking pain pills for a back injury and I became very addicted to them. I am a Born Again Christian. I would love to have a Christian sister to correspond with. I do want someone that will help me grow closer to the Lord. I believe I have a lot to give also. Thank you for this opportunity."

The Pen pal role as a mentor is to encourage a female inmate in her spiritual growth, to answer her questions about God, and to show her that through God she is loved unconditionally. Each prospective pen pal mentor attends a training where written guidelines are offered which outline the "do's and don'ts" of writing to women in prison. Pen pal mentors do not use last names in their correspondence to their assigned inmate, nor do they use a personal address. To protect the pen pal's privacy, all mail from the inmate will be sent to Sharing Hope Ministry, and pen pals are notified when mail has arrived. The staff at Sharing Hope Ministry is always available to assist if questions arise. Please call Sharing Hope Ministry at 358-7803 if you would like additional information.

We Appreciate our  
Volunteers

Sharing Hope Ministry is able to carry out our ministry goals because of the volunteers that give their time and energy. This includes everyone from our leadership team, office workers, jail ministry teams, pen pals, stepping stones, prayer team, special events volunteers and Board of Directors. Last year, volunteers gave over 14,500 hours working to accomplish our goal to assist incarcerated women in the State of Texas in their recovery from destructive behavior by sharing God's love and hope through the teaching of His Word. Sharing Hope was able to share God's love with 18,785 women who are incarcerated in Texas jails and prison. We want to give our heart felt thanks to everyone who had a part in accomplishing these goals.

Thank You!!

*But encourage one another day after day,  
as long as it is still called "Today."*

*Hebrews 3:13 NASB*

## WE NEED YOUR RECIPES

Based on the success of the annual Christmas in October Bake Sale, Sharing Hope has decided to publish a cookbook. Volunteers and friends are asked to submit up to 5 recipes. Based on duplications and available spaces, all recipes submitted will be included in the cookbook. Please let us know if you are submitting a specialty recipe that can be designated as a "Bake Sale Favorite." Deadlines for recipes submission will be April 8th. Recipes can be emailed to [leigh@sharinghopeministry.org](mailto:leigh@sharinghopeministry.org) or be brought or mailed to the office.

The cookbook will be a hard-back 3 ring binder. It can be pre-ordered at a special price of \$10.00 each if ordered by May 1st; if ordered after May 1st, will be available at the regular price of \$12.00 each. Cookbooks will be available for pickup in July.

Please help support Sharing Hope Ministry by sending in your recipes and committing to purchase one or more cookbooks. Proceeds will be used to help incarcerated women experience God's love and hope to make changes in their lives by breaking the chains of destructive behavior.



P.O. Box 19985  
Amarillo, Texas 79114

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Amarillo, Texas  
Permit No. 237



# Sharing Hope Supporters

## January 2005 - February 2005

Ambassador Bible Class  
Barbara Hoffman  
Betty Brown Johnson  
Bob & Connie Garrett  
Bobby & Jan Scott  
Carmen Ramirez  
Carolyn Holmes  
Charles & Linda Stafford  
Donna Cobb  
Douglas Toulouse  
Elizabeth Maddox  
Faith City Mission  
George & Bonnie Snell  
Janet Cates  
Joy Mathews  
Keith & Francis Clark  
Ken & Janice Johnson  
Kimberly Waldrop

Larry & Delores Cross  
Leslie Cooper  
Letha Banks  
Lydia Rodriguez  
Margaret Willis  
Marvin & Wilda Willis  
Michael & Marilyn Miller  
Michael Graham  
Mickey & Judy Wilson  
New Beginnings  
Paramount Terrace Christian Church  
Penny Lawlis  
Ramona Price  
Rev. John & Laurie Riggs  
Shannon Cornell  
Sharon Albracht  
Stephen & LaRhonda Ferrin

The Fisherman Class  
The Lamplighters Class  
Westcliff Bible Church  
William & Margaret Moore  
Women of Grace

### IN MEMORY OF

Jeanine Donna Sheet  
by Jimmy & Carolyn Williams  
L. Milton Cooke  
by Don & Gladys Mickey

### IN HONOR OF:

Glenna Freeland  
by Mark & Holly Irving

### IN KIND DONATIONS

Darla Andrew  
Aurene Bevers

Mindy Briggs  
Carolyn Holmes  
Dorothy Hunter  
Kim Lester  
The Link Family  
Joyce Schultz  
Linda Stafford  
Eric and Kelly Tucker  
Karen Young

### HOPE FEST DONATIONS

Amarillo National Bank  
Stephen & LaRhonda Ferrin  
Connie Hodges  
Dave & April Riggs  
Santa Fe Federal Credit Union